

REMARKS

By this Amendment, claim 18 is amended to merely clarify the recited subject matter and overcome the rejection under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph.

Claims 4-19 and 21-33 are pending and claims 18, 19 and 21-24 are under active consideration while the remaining claims have been withdrawn from consideration.

Claims 18, 19 and 21-24 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being obvious from Uchida (U.S. 6,057,051) or alternatively Uchida in view of Colborn (U.S. 6,522,955). Applicants traverse the rejections because the cited prior art references, analyzed individually or in combination, fail to disclose, teach or suggest all the features recited in the rejected claims.

For example, the cited prior art fails to teach or suggest the claimed electronic apparatus, that includes both a body and a fuel cell unit, wherein the fuel cell unit includes a storage unit which stores information indicating the remaining amount of fuel sensed by the sensing unit, the storage unit being accessible by the body, and the body includes a controller which reads the information indicating the remaining amount of fuel sensed by the sensing unit from the storage unit, at predetermined intervals of time.

To the contrary, in accordance with the claimed invention, an electronic apparatus has a fuel cell unit detachably connected to a body; that fuel cell unit senses a remaining amount of fuel in a tank and stores information indicating the remaining amount of fuel in the tank in a storage unit of the fuel cell unit. When necessary, for example, at predetermined intervals of time, the body reads and displays the information indicating the remaining amount of fuel sensed by the fuel unit.

Uchida merely teaches a miniaturized fuel cell assembly that powers portable electronic equipment; that assembly includes a hydride hydrogen storage unit, a control unit for controlling the flow of hydrogen, a hydrogen supply device interconnecting the hydrogen storage unit and the fuel cell body, and an air feed device to supply oxygen necessary for the generation of electricity. However, Uchida merely teaches that, in the case where the equipment, on which the fuel cell power source is mounted, is a note-type personal computer, estimated values of an operation time elapsed and a remaining operating time are outputted through the equipment connection terminal 10 to be displayed on the equipment 1.

To the contrary, in accordance with the claimed invention, an electronic apparatus has a fuel cell unit detachably connected to a body; that fuel cell unit senses a remaining amount of fuel in a tank and stores information indicating the remaining amount of fuel in the tank in

a storage unit of the fuel cell unit. When necessary, for example, at predetermined intervals of time, the body reads and displays the information indicating the remaining amount of fuel sensed by the fuel unit.

However, Uchida fails to teach or suggest an electronic apparatus that includes both a body and a fuel cell unit, wherein the fuel cell unit includes a storage unit which stores information indicating the remaining amount of fuel sensed by the sensing unit, the storage unit being accessible by the body, and the body includes a controller which reads the information indicating the remaining amount of fuel sensed by the sensing unit from the storage unit, at predetermined intervals of time.

Colborn fails to remedy the deficiencies of Uchida because Colborn merely teaches a fuel cell unit with a communication device that enables a body to acquire various information regarding the fuel cell unit.

Thus, Uchida, analyzed individually or in combination with Colborn, fails to teach or suggest the claimed invention wherein information can be conveyed to the body directly because the fuel cell unit includes a storage unit accessible by the body, and information to be conveyed is stored in the storage unit, as recited in independent claim 18 and its dependent claims.

Applicants direct the Examiner's attention to Applicants' specification, at FIG. 4 and page 11, lines 13-19, wherein Applicant has explained that the interface of an E2PROM 26 is used by an electronic apparatus 1 wherein the fuel cell unit can convey information to a body by merely storing status information in the E2PROM 26 (by having the body read the information) without including a communication device. Thus, in accordance with the invention, as both disclosed and claimed, the fuel cell unit does not include a mechanism for conveying information to a body, since the storage unit of the fuel cell unit is accessible by the body. Such an idea is not disclosed in Uchida or Colborn, analyzed individually or in combination.

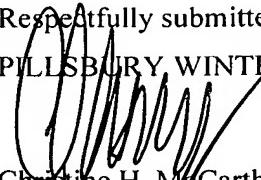
Therefore, the combined teachings of Uchida and Colborn fail to disclose, teach or suggest the claimed invention. Accordingly, claims 18-19 and 21-24 are allowable.

All objections and rejections having been addressed, Applicants request that the Office issue a Notice of Allowance indicating the allowability of all the pending claims. However, if anything remains necessary to place the application in condition for allowance, Applicants request that the Examiner telephone the undersigned Applicant representative.

Please charge any fees associated with the submission of this paper to Deposit Account Number 033975. The Commissioner for Patents is also authorized to credit any over payments to the above-referenced Deposit Account.

Respectfully submitted,

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